

# Media Release

## Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

**Scott Mascher – Sheriff**

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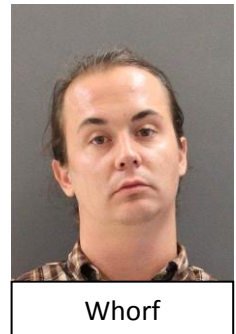


**June 1, 2015**

### ***Recent Incidents Overview – Attempted Homicide and Overturned Vehicle Accident***

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Seligman – Aggravated Assault - On May 28, 2015, at approximately 2 AM, YCSO deputies were dispatched to the 32500 block of West Camino Oso, Bridge Canyon, Seligman, regarding an assault with a firearm. Upon arrival, deputies could not locate the 29-year-old male victim or the gunman. While checking the area, deputies eventually found the victim hiding in the brush along Fort Rock Road. He indicated the suspect had tried to shoot him earlier with using a pistol and rifle before he was able to flee and hide. The suspect was now driving in the area apparently armed and still looking for him. Deputies identified the gunman/suspect as 27-year-old Titus Whorf of Seligman. The victim was not injured but very shaken by the assault.



Background - The victim stated he has known Whorf for about 14 years and was planning to buy a home near Whorf in Bridge Canyon Estates. Tonight they were visiting a friend in Seligman and eventually left, both riding together in a vehicle back to Whorf's Bridge Canyon home where the victim planned on staying overnight. Both had been drinking alcoholic beverages. During the drive back, Whorf suddenly became enraged and pointed a handgun at the victim for unknown reasons. The victim diffused the situation by giving Whorf a gun he was carrying. After arriving at Whorf's home and while still outside, Whorf again became enraged made threats to kill the victim. As the victim was trying to calm him down, Whorf fired shots from a handgun within a 15 foot distance of the victim who thought he had been hit. When the victim told Whorf he had been shot, Whorf replied that it was time to "finish things." The victim, believing Whorf was going to kill him, was able to flee into the wilderness as heard Whorf getting another gun ready.

As the victim was running away, Whorf fired several more rounds from a rifle in his direction. While the victim hid, he could see Whorf driving around looking for him. He called 911 and continued moving and hiding to avoid Whorf until he spotted a deputy in the area. Checking the victim further, deputies discovered apparent bullet holes in the victim's short pants indicating rounds had just missed his body. Whorf could not be located immediately.

At approximately 10AM, Whorf agreed to turn himself in to the Sheriff's Office in Seligman. Whorf was interviewed and admitted firing rounds at the victim after an argument ensued when he claimed the victim refused to leave his property. Whorf was arrested and booked at the Camp Verde Detention Center on Aggravated Assault with a Deadly Weapon and remains in-custody on a \$150,000 bond. A search warrant was served at Whorf's home and several firearms were seized including those used during the incident. Deputies also discovered evidence in and around the home of rounds fired related to the assault.

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Village of Oak Creek – Traffic Accident - On May 28, 2015, YCSO deputies were dispatched to an overturned vehicle on Beaverhead Flat Road near the Village of Oak Creek. The vehicle, a 2011 silver Hyundai Sedan, was being driven east on Beaverhead Flat Road by a 16-year-old male and contained 3 passengers – a 16-year-old front seat passenger and 2 male back seat passengers ages 16 and 17. They were being followed by another vehicle containing several friends. While the vehicle was moving east along Beaverhead Flat Road, the front seat female passenger made a decision to stand up so that her upper body was visible through the sun-roof of the Hyundai. The driver asked her to sit down because of safety concerns. As she complied, she slipped and fell into the driver which caused him to swerve and leave the roadway. The vehicle went up an embankment, launched across a ravine, and landed upside down after the front seat passenger had been ejected.

The ejected passenger received serious injuries suffering numerous abrasions and cuts. She and a rear seat passenger, also injured, were back-boarded by EMS personnel so they could be safely moved to roadway and an ambulance. Both were transported to the Verde Valley Medical Center. The driver suffered a possible concussion and complained of dizziness and was airlifted to the Flagstaff Medical Center as was the remaining passenger who was also injured. None of the injuries involving any of the occupants was life threatening.

No charges have been filed at this time.



Top – Vehicle at its point of rest  
Below – Vehicle after being  
righted

*Citizens can contact the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office with information or questions at 928-771-3260 or the YCSO website:*

[www.ycsoaz.gov](http://www.ycsoaz.gov)